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OBLASTS SCORED FOR LAGGING
IN MALARIA CONTROL

Hydrotechnical measures are most important in any planned anti-malaria work. The Soviet government finances this department liberally, and engages interested departments, industrial ministries, and communal organs in active hydrotechnical work.

In industrial ministries of republics alone, 15 million rubles were appropriated for draining swamps, constructing reservoirs, improving irrigation systems, etc. The public health organizations, primarily the anti-malaria system and the state sanitation inspection, are very concerned that these means be utilized to the fullest extent in order that the complex hydrotechnical plans confirmed by the planning committees of local soviets are fulfilled completely and on time.

In many regions of the country, radical changes are taking place in the appearance of localities: swamps are being drained, anopheles mids are being eliminated, and well constructed irrigation systems are being set up. Substantial areas in Gurdzhaanetskiy Iagodekhskiy, Goritskiy, and other regions of Georgia were recently covered with swamps; the kolkhos workers drained them and have them under cultivation. In Livov Coldest Ukrainian SSR, the workers built an irrigation system capable of draining many swamps.

The Kubano-Yegorlyskaya irrigation system, which carries the waters of the Kubana into the dry northeast regions of Stavropol, was built by the method of "peoples construction."

In localities where the anti malaria institutions are directed efficiently, and where the state sanitation inspection functions properly, the enterprises and departments are fulfilling the plan for hydrotechnical work. Unfortunately, this is not the case everywhere. The board of the Ministry of Public Health of the Ukrainian SSR having reviewed the 6-month totals, stated that small-scale construction work was only 37 percent fulfilled, and that the plan for largescale construction is threatened with collapse.

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The staff of each malaria station includes hydrotechnical engineers who are charged with the improvement of sanitary conditions, and control of work of the different departments. In the public health departments of Kiev and Sverdlovsk oblasts, hydrotechnical engineers' wages are being paid to persons who have nothing to do with the anti-malaria service.

The quality of hydrotechnical work and strict fulfillment of requirements is of tremendous importance. It means nothing if in the Neftegorsk Region of Krasnodar Krai, for example, the workers fulfill the plan formally but disregard the technical norms and do not eliminate the snail-breeding characteristics of reservoirs.

It is time to end the liberal attitude toward leaders who do not fulfill hydrotechnical plans. The industrial organizations of Syzran in Kuybyshev Oblast disrupt sanitation work year after year. Recently, the state sanitation inspection again fined the directors of Khvostyuk, Skachkov, Ponkov, Trenin, and Sultanov enterprises for neglecting hydro-technical measures. The senior state sanitation inspector of Syzran, El'kin, and the director of the malaria station, Savvin, having been informed of this, directed the attention of the Malaria Control Department of the Ministry of Public Health USSR (director, M. I. Buslayev) to the fact that these fines had not yet served to correct the situation created by the Syzran enterprises and that more stringent measures were necessary. However, no steps were taken by the Ministry. The All-Union State Sanitation Inspection likewise did not intervene in the matter of forcing the above-mentioned directors to actually carry out sanitation measures.

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